

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0058] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0058] The acquisition device comprises a keyboard 310 and an electronic form 304 which is displayed on the screen 303. The form comprises, per component of the components list, two input fields into which an operator types the setpoint MTBF value and the setpoint MTTR value of the respective component or inputs it using a voice processing program. In the example in fig. 1, three setpoint MTBF input fields 300.1, ~~300.2~~ 300.2, 300.3 and three setpoint MTTR input fields 301.1, ~~301.2~~ 301.2, 301.3 are shown for three components B_1, B_2, B_3. On the right, the name of the respective component is entered next to each input field. The form 304 is generated automatically as a function of the components which are taken into account in the components list 130.1. If the components list 130.1 has a component added to it or if a component is removed, the form is therefore automatically adapted to the change. Furthermore, the data acquisition device comprises means for reading out the input setpoint MTBF values and setpoint MTTR values from the respective input fields and means for checking the plausibility of the input values.

Please replace paragraph [0061] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0061] In a further embodiment, the device according to the invention is implemented using a network central computer 10 ("server") and a plurality of network subscriber computers 20.1, ~~20.1~~ 20.2, ... ("clients"). The network subscriber computers are connected to the network central computer 10 by the Internet or an Intranet. The architecture of the device comprises the following three layers:

- the data storage layer for storing data,
- the application layer for carrying out the evaluations and generating the comparisons, and
- the representation layer for representing the generated comparisons.

Please replace paragraph [0063] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0063] The following databases and software programs are installed on the network central

computer 10:

- per category, one electronic system list ~~110~~ 110.1, 110.2 which lists all the systems of the category taken into account, and the systems may originate from different system manufacturers,
- per category, one electronic parts list ~~120~~ 120.1, 120.2 which is valid for all the technical systems of a category and describes a decomposition of a system of the category into its components,
- per category, an electronic components list ~~130~~ 130.1, 130.2 which comprises the maintenance-intensive components of the technical system,
- an Internet response program 180 (“web server”) which receives requests and enquiries which are received from a network subscriber computer 20.1, 20.2, ... using, for example, the protocol HTTP, and passes on the responses and reactions generated by the network central computer 10 to the enquiring network subscriber computer 20.1 or 20.2 or 20.3,
- interlinking software 170 (“middleware”) for interlinking the databases and electronic lists to the Internet response program 180.

Please replace paragraph [0065] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0065] An Internet response program 180 is understood to be a program on the network central computer 10 which transfers Internet pages to enquiring network subscriber computers 20.1, 20.2, The enquiring network subscriber computer has beforehand transferred the request to the Internet response program 180 by means of an Internet address which is specific to the Internet response program 180, by, for example, selecting specific alternatives on an Internet page represented by the Internet access program 190. The address has the form of a “uniform resource identifier” (URI). <http://www.w3.org/Addressing/> describes how a URI is structured, said page having been searched on 8.1.2003. The Internet page is either static or dynamic. A dynamic Internet page is generated by the Internet response program 180. To do this, the Internet response program 180 transmit requests to one of the databases and uses the responses to generate the Internet page.

Please replace paragraph [0070] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0070] The device according to the invention comprises a tree-like electronic parts list ~~120~~ 120.1, 120.2 for each category. The root of the parts list represents the entire system and the further nodes represent the components. One node for one component A is the successor of a node for a component B if A is part of B. In the parts list, each component of the system is represented by a node, even the non-maintenance-intensive components.

Please replace paragraph [0091] of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

[0091] It is possible to characterize different components as maintenance-intensive in the same parts list for different systems for a category. For example, for one system the linear axis (NC drive) is maintenance-intensive and for another a bed track guide is maintenance-intensive. As a result different components lists ~~130~~ 130.1, 130.2 are produced for different systems of the same category.